

Appln. No. 10/600,289

Docket No. 1610-97

Amendment

Reply to Office Action dated June 21, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) A machine according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises: for the manufacture of lipsticks, comprising:

a first and second carousel (1, 2) located one next to the other and comprising respective annular horizontal plates (4, 6) revolving around respective parallel vertical axes (A, B), in which: wherein

the annular plate (4) of the first carousel (1) is provided with housings (8) for flexible molds moulds (14) that are fillable with molten cosmetic product;

wherein the annular plate (4) of the second carousel (2) is provided with housings (22) for cases (45) for the collection of solidified cosmetic product (44);

wherein the first carousel (1) comprises, along the run of the its respective annular plate, (4) the sequence of

a zone (17) for the introduction of warm air into said flexible molds for heating the same,

a zone (18) for pouring molten cosmetic product into said flexible molds moulds (14),

a cooling zone operating by convection of cold air for said flexible molds moulds (14), a the cooling zone (19) operating by convection of cold air for said flexible molds moulds (14) and the cosmetic products poured into them, and

a zone (20) for the insertion of said cases (45) into said flexible molds moulds (14) and around the cosmetic products (44) contained therein and for the subsequent extraction

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of said cases (45) with relative cosmetic products inserted therein (44) stuck into them ([.]),
and

wherein the second carousel (2) comprises, along the run of the its respective annular plate,

(6)

a zone (23) for the grasping and transfer of said cases (45) from said housings (22) of the second carousel (2) inside said flexible molds moulds (14) of the first carousel (1) and for the return of said cases (45) with inserted cosmetic products (44) from said flexible molds moulds (13) to said housings of the second carousel, and

a zone (24) for the completion of the insertion of the cosmetic products (44) inside said cases (45).

3. (Currently amended) The machine according to claim 2, characterised in that wherein said cooling zone (19) of the first carousel (1) comprises a cooling device comprising air at room temperature that is made circulate inside a box (43) into which said flexible molds moulds (14) are inserted.

4. (Currently amended) The machine according to claim 2, characterised in that wherein a gripping unit is provided between said zone (20) of the first carousel (1) in which said cases (45) get inside are inserted into said flexible molds moulds (14) and around the cosmetic products (44) and are then picked up from said flexible molds moulds (14) together with said cosmetic products, (44) and said zone (23) of the second carousel (2) in which said cases (45) are taken from said housings (22) of the second carousel (2) for their transfer inside said flexible molds moulds (14) of the first carousel (1) and then taken back with inserted cosmetic products (44) into said housings (22) of the second carousel, (2)

wherein said [[a]] gripping unit (21) operates that is capable to take empty cases (45) from said housings (22) of the second carousel (2), to insert them in upside-down position inside said flexible molds moulds (14) of the first carousel (1) and finally to take them back to their original position into said housings (22) of the second carousel (2) with said cosmetic products (44) inserted in said cases (45).

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5. (Currently amended) The machine according to claim 4, characterised in that wherein said gripping unit comprises: (24)

a vertically mobile head (26),

a revolving hub (28) carried by said head (26) and

an arm (29) with tongs (30) for the grasping of the cases (45) fastened to said hub (28) in such a way as to be rotated by 180° from a position with tongs (30) superimposed to said housings (22) of the second carousel (2) to a position with tongs (30) overlapped to said housings (8) of the first carousel (1), and vice-versa.

6. (Currently amended) The machine according to claim 2, characterised in that wherein said cases (45) comprise an internal part (47) suitable to receive a cosmetic product (44) and an external part (48) that is screwable as regards said internal part (47) for the complete insertion of said internal part (47) and of said cosmetic products (44) inside of said part external (48) and said zone (24) for the completion of the insertion of cosmetic product (44) into said cases (45) comprising a device (31) that is capable to cause the mutual screwing of said internal (47) and external (48) parts of said cases (45).

7. (Currently amended) Machine according to claim 6, characterised in that wherein said device (31) comprises tongs (34) for the gripping of said internal part (47) of the cases (45), sprung bearing surfaces (35) for said external part (48) of the cases (45) and revolving means (37) connected with said bearing surfaces (35) in such a way that their rotation causes the axial translation of said bearing surfaces (35) as regards said tongs (34).

8. (Currently amended) Machine according to claim 2, characterised in that wherein said zone for the heating (17) of the first carousel (1) comprises a main tube (54), containing a resistance (54) controlled by thermocouple, that connects a hose (51) with a collector (52) that supports small tubes (53) insertable in said flexible molds moulds (14).